

disillusioned, and pleading with us to bring our troops home. They want us to do that so there will be no more deaths like Staff Sergeant Mark Wells, the young man from Congressman POE's district.

HONORING DALE EVERETT CRANE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. QUAYLE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUAYLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who lived a life that epitomized the American Dream—a man who put his family and country first, yet never asked for anything in return. We here in Washington talk a lot about the American Dream. Unfortunately, we often talk about this dream in abstract terms. Yet, every day there are people all across this great country who are living this dream without any recognition.

And for many of them, that's exactly how they like it. They don't want accolades or praise. They simply want to live a happy life and be surrounded by the people they love. They believe that building a strong family and serving their country is nothing special. They believe it's ordinary. Madam Speaker, that mindset and that belief is what makes these people extraordinary, and that is what made Dale Everett Crane extraordinary.

Dale Crane came from humble beginnings in southern California. After he graduated from high school, Dale briefly attended college until he found another calling. Instead of furthering his education, Dale joined the marines and went on to fight for our country in Vietnam. After being honorably discharged from his beloved corps, he met the love of his life, Shawn, and married her. Dale went on to be a successful small businessman. He scraped and he saved; but in the end, he built up one of those small businesses that make our country strong.

Although Dale built a tremendous small business, this was not his greatest accomplishment. In Dale's mind, his greatest accomplishment was his family. His marriage to Shawn and his four children were far and away the most important thing in his life. I don't know this because I read a story about Dale in a newspaper. I know this because I felt it firsthand. Dale Crane was my father-in-law. The love he knew for his family knew no bounds—and if we all embraced this love of family and country, we would be in a better place.

Madam Speaker, on February 19 of this year, Dale Crane's family and friends mourned his death. But more importantly, we celebrated his life. We will never forget the sacrifices he made for his family and his country.

□ 1030

REPUBLICANS RESCHEDULE DEBATE ON HOME AFFORDABLE MODIFICATION PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I am here to report that the Republican follies continue today.

Today, we were scheduled to debate the Republicans' proposal to terminate the President's foreclosure prevention program called HAMP. But late last night, the Republican leadership decided to postpone debate until after returning from the recess.

As the country faces a number of problems, including a serious housing crisis, the House Republican leadership decided that today wasn't the best time to terminate a program that has helped more than half a million homeowners stay in their homes.

See, tomorrow, the House will close up shop until March 28, and Republicans recognize that killing a foreclosure prevention program today would be bad politics. It would force Republican Members to go home and defend this feckless move for 10 straight days—to defend ending a foreclosure prevention program face to face with the people they represent, many of whom are struggling right now to keep their mortgage and keep their home. But, after the 10-day recess, when House Republicans come back out of the sight of their constituents, they'll move forward with their plans to end the home loan modification program.

This kind of leadership is disgraceful. American homeowners are struggling. Nearly 7 million homeowners are facing foreclosure in this country. One in every four houses are owned by people who owe more than the house is worth. Nearly half a million homeowners have been able to stay in their homes because of the Affordable Modification Program, or HAMP. Ending that program will undoubtedly kick families out of their homes. That's something the Republicans realized they didn't want to do before a 10-day recess.

I'll be the first to admit the Affordable Modification Program is not perfect. So let's fix it or replace it with something better. However, I have yet to see a legitimate alternative from House Republicans. They just want to cut, cut, cut, cut. Cutting deficits is important, but the Republicans' policies and scheduling gimmicks indicate that they don't really care about the American people.

Every Republican Member should watch the "60 Minutes" special, entitled, "Hard Times Generation." It aired two Sundays ago, on March 6. The special focused on families that were homeowners and part of the middle class before the 2007 recession started. Now hundreds of thousands of those American people are homeless and hun-

gry for the first time in their lives. The children of one former home-owning family described what it was like to live in their parents' van. Before school, they'd go to a Walmart bathroom to brush their teeth, wash their faces, and get cleaned up to go to school. The kids and their parents are now living in a motel room, the whole family of six, which is, quote, "better than the van," although it's small.

Is this the America that Republicans want our children to grow up in? Are Republicans really comfortable killing a program that has prevented 500,000 people from moving out of their house and living in their car? Clearly, my Republican colleagues need a wake-up call today, and I am here to help. Watch that "60 Minutes" special.

I've made it easier for you to watch the "60 Minutes" segment. All you have to do is go to my Web site, mcdermott.house.gov, then click on the very first slide in the slideshow that says, "60 Minutes Special: Poverty." If you see that, click on it and you can watch what's going on.

And when my colleagues, Madam Speaker, are back in their districts over the 10-day recess after they've watched this, then they should meet with some of these people and see what their thoughts are about ending the program and doing nothing to help American families. If they still believe that they should simply do away with the modification program, my belief is they have forgotten why they were elected and who they represent.

The housing program that we will debate after the 10-day recess has saved the homes of over half a million people, or 500,000 families. It's far from perfect, but we need to focus on improving it or replacing it with something better, not just killing it.

How many more kids have to take their morning bath in the Walmart bathroom or the Exxon gasoline bathroom before we begin to help the homeowners who were caught in the debacle from Wall Street from which not one person has gone to prison or served one single day?

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 36 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: